



09-10-04

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Attorney's Docket No.: 17601-003010

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Joseph A. Zupanick  
Serial No. : 10/761,629  
Filed : January 20, 2004  
Title : METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR ACCESSING SUBTERRANEAN DEPOSITS  
FROM THE SURFACE

Art Unit : 3673  
Examiner : John J. Kreck

**Mail Stop Amendment**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicant submits the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. A copy of a communication from a foreign patent office in a related application is also enclosed.

The present Application was filed after June 30, 2003. Therefore, under the July 11, 2003, waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i) by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, copies of U.S. Patents and U.S. Patent Application Publications listed in the attached PTO-1449 form are not enclosed. Copies of all foreign art and non-patent literature are in electronic .pdf format on the enclosed CD-ROM for the convenience of the Examiner. Paper copies of any or all foreign art and non-patent literature are available upon request.

This statement is being filed after a first Office action on the merits, but before receipt of a final Office action or a Notice of Allowance. A check for \$180 in payment of the late submission fee of §1.17(p) is enclosed. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

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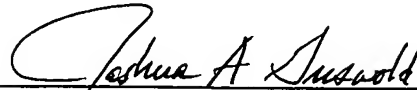
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Page : 2 of 2

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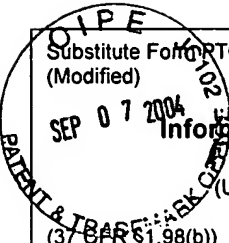
Respectfully submitted,

Date: 9/7/04

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joshua A. Griswold  
Reg. No. 46,310

Fish & Richardson P.C.  
5000 Bank One Center  
1717 Main Street  
Dallas, Texas 75201  
Telephone: (214) 292-4034  
Facsimile: (214) 747-2091

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 Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified) <b>Information Disclosure Statement          by Applicant</b> (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR § 1.98(b))	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office		Attorney's Docket No. 17601-003010	Application No. 10/761,629
	Applicant Joseph A. Zupanick			
	Filing Date January 20, 2004		Group Art Unit	

### U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	A1	2,797,893	07/02/1957	McCune et al.			
	A2	3,385,382	05/28/1968	Canalizo et al.			
	A3	3,582,138	06/01/1971	Loofbourow et al.			
	A4	3,587,743	06/28/1971	Howard			
	A5	4,020,901	05/03/1977	Pisio et al.			
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	A8	4,151,880	05/01/1979	Vann			
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	A11	4,226,475	10/07/1980	Frosch et al.			
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	A26	5,287,926	02/22/1994	Gruppung			
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Examiner Signature	Date Considered
EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

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Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
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	A29	5,697,445	12/16/1997	Graham			
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	A33	6,062,306	05/16/2000	Gano et al.			
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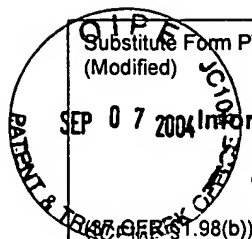
### Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	B1	AU 85/49964A	11/20/1986	Australia			Abstract Only	
	B2	CA 2,210,866	01/19/1998	Canada			N/A	
	B3	DE 197 25 996 A1	01/02/1998	Germany			Abstract Only	
	B4	EP 0 819 834 A1	01/21/1998	EPO			Abstract Only	
	B5	FR 964,503	08/18/1950	France			X	
	B6	WO 02/061238 A1	08/08/2002	WIPO			N/A	
	B7	WO 94/28280	12/08/1994	WIPO			N/A	

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	C2	Sharma, R., et al., "Modelling of Undulating Wellbore Trajectories," The Journal of Canadian Petroleum Technology, Vol. 34, No. 10, XP-002261908, October 18-20, 1993 pp. 16-24 (9 pages)
	C3	Balbinski, E.F., "Prediction of Offshore Viscous Oil Field Performance," European Symposium on Improved Oil Recovery, August 18-20, 1999, 10 pages
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	C8	Precision Drilling, "We Have Roots in Coal Bed Methane Drilling," Technology Services Group, Published on or before August 5, 2002, 1 page
	C9	U.S. Dept. of Energy, "New Breed of CBM/CMM Recovery Technology," July 2003, 1 page
	C10	Ghiselin, Dick, "Unconventional Vision Frees Gas Reserves," Natural Gas Quarterly, September 2003, 2 pages
	C11	CBM Review, World Coal, "US Drilling into Asia," June 2003, 4 pages

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**Information Disclosure Statement  
by Applicant**

(Use several sheets if necessary)

 Applicant  
Joseph A. Zupanick

 Filing Date  
January 20, 2004

Group Art Unit

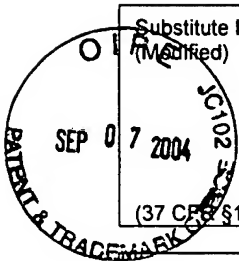
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	C12	Skrebowski, Chris, "US Interest in North Korean Reserves," Petroleum, Energy Institute, July 2003, 4 pages
	C13	Pauley, Steven, U.S. Patent Application entitled "Multi-Purpose Well Bores and Method for Accessing a Subterranean Zone From the Surface," S/N 10/715,300, November 17, 2003 (34 pages)
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	C16	Zupanick, U.S. Patent Application entitled "Method and System for Testing A Partially Formed Hydrocarbon Well for Evaluation and Well Planning Refinement," S/N 10/769,221, January 30, 2004 (34 pages)
	C17	Platt, "Method and System for Lining Multilateral Wells," S/N 10/772,841, February 5, 2004 (30 pages)
	C18	Zupanick, "System And Method For Directional Drilling Utilizing Clutch Assembly," S/N 10/811,118, March 25, 2004 (35 pages)
	C19	Zupanick et al., "Slot Cavity," S/N 10/419,529, April 21, 2003 (44 pages)
	C20	Zupanick, "System and Method for Multiple Wells from a Common Surface Location," S/N 10/788,694, February 27, 2004 (26 pages)
	C21	Field, T.W., "Surface to In-seam Drilling – The Australian Experience," Undated, 10 pages
	C22	Drawings included in CBM well permit issued to CNX stamped April 15, 2004 by the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (5 pages)
	C23	Website of Mitchell Drilling Contractors, "Services: Dymaxion – Surface to In-seam," <a href="http://www.mitchelldrilling.com/dymaxion.htm">http://www.mitchelldrilling.com/dymaxion.htm</a> , printed as of 06/17/2004, 4 pages
	C24	Website of CH4, "About Natural Gas – Technology," <a href="http://www.ch4.com.au/ng_technology.html">http://www.ch4.com.au/ng_technology.html</a> , copyright 2003, printed as of 06/17/2004, 4 pages
	C25	Thomson, et al., "The Application of Medium Radius Directional Drilling for Coal Bed Methane Extraction," Lucas Technical Paper, copyrighted 2003, 11 pages
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	C28	Desai, Praful, et al., "Innovative Design Allows Construction of Level 3 or Level 4 Junction Using the Same Platform," SPE/Petroleum Society of CIM/CHOA 78965, Canadian Heavy Oil Association, 2002, pp. 1-11
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	C30	Bybee, Karen, "A New Generation Multilateral System for the Troll Olje Field," Multilateral/Extended Reach, July 2002, 2 pages

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Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
	C31	Emerson,, A.B., et al., " <i>Moving Toward Simpler, Highly Functional Multilateral Completions</i> ," Technical Note, Journal of Canadian Petroleum Technology, May 2002, Volume 41, No. 5, pp. 9-12
	C32	Moritis, Guntis, " <i>Complex Well Geometries Boost Orinoco Heavy Oil Producing Rates</i> ," XP-000969491, Oil & Gas Journal, February 28, 2000, pp. 42-46
	C33	Themig, Dan, " <i>Multilateral Thinking</i> ," New Technology Magazine, December 1999, pp. 24-25
	C34	Smith, R.C., et al., " <i>The Lateral Tie-Back System: The Ability to Drill and Case Multiple Laterals</i> ," IADC/SPE 27436, Society of Petroleum Engineers, 1994, pp. 55-64, plus Multilateral Services Profile (1 page) and Multilateral Services Specifications (1 page)
	C35	Notification of Transmittal of the International Search Report or the Declaration (PCT Rule 44.1) (3 pages) and International Search Report (4 pages) re International Application No. PCT/US 03/13954 mailed September 1, 2003
	C36	Logan, Terry L., " <i>Drilling Techniques for Coalbed Methane</i> ," Hydrocarbons From Coal, Chapter 12, Copyright 1993, Title Page, Copyright Page, pp. 269-285
	C37	Hanes, John, " <i>Outbursts in Leichhardt Colliery: Lessons Learned</i> ," International Symposium-Cum-Workshop on Management and Control of High Gas Emissions and Outbursts in Underground Coal Mines," Wollongong, NSW, Australia, March 20-24, 1995, Title page, pp. 445-449
	C38	Williams, Ray, et al., " <i>Gas Reservoir Properties for Mine Gas Emission Assessment</i> ," Bowen Basin Symposium 2000, pp. 325-333
	C39	Brown, K., et al., " <i>New South Wales Coal Seam Methane Potential</i> ," Petroleum Bulletin 2, Department of Mineral Resources, Discovery 2000, March 1996, pp. i-viii, 1-96
	C40	Fipke, S., et al., " <i>Economical Multilateral Well Technology for Canadian Heavy Oil</i> ," Petroleum Society, Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy & Petroleum, Paper 2002-100, to be presented in Calgary Alberta, June 11-13, 2002, pages 1-11

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